

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. CLAIM STATUS AND AMENDMENTS

Claims 113-122 were pending in this application when last examined.

Claims 117, 119, 120 and 122 were examined on the merits and stand rejected.

Claims 118 and 121 were objected to.

Claims 113-117 and 120 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer thereto.

Claim 118 has been amended into independent form. Claim 119 has been amended to depend from 118.

No new matter has been added.

II. WRITTEN DESCRIPTION REJECTION

On pages 2-4 of the Office Action, claims 117, 119, 120 and 122 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, under the written description requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as applied to the remaining claims.

Initially, it is noted that claim 118 was not subject to this rejection. Claim 118 has now been amended to independent form. Further, claims 119 and 122 are ultimately dependent upon this now allowable claim. Thus, this written description rejection is obviated. It is therefore respectfully submitted that this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is hereby requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Etsuko MIYAMOTO et al.

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March 15, 2010